

USAID/RUSSIA RFE Programs Summary

Summer 2008

Dear Partners and Friends:

Season's Greetings and Happy New Year-2009!

A lot has been accomplished in the passing year. We are proud of our joint achievements and hope for future cooperation.

Enclosed is the Summary Activity Report in the Russian Far East (RFE) for Summer 2008, with the main focus on June – August events.

This report – the last of such kind - highlights USAID partners implementing projects in the RFE in the area of:

- Local communities' public initiatives
- Healthcare and children social support
- Expanding economic opportunities for local communities

In future, please submit your activities, event summaries and success stories as they arise, as quickly as possible after an event or other noteworthy success happened so that it is as fresh as possible and so that we could incorporate them immediately into our new ALL-RUSSIA submissions appearing since September 2008 on a regular basis.

Many thanks to all who have provided activity summary information and pictures.

Once again, we wish you all a prosperous holiday season.

Sincerely,

USAID RFE Team

Jess Bratton, USAID Regional Advisor

jbratton@usaid.gov

Irina Lindberg, USAID RFE Program Representative

ilindberg@usaid.gov

Web site: <http://russia.usaid.gov>

DISCLAIMER

This report was written by USAID's partners in the Russian Far East, and the content reflects the views of those organizations named in it.

I. LOCAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

A. AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION/ Rule of Law Initiative (ABA ROLI)

www.abanet.org/rol

Contact Person: Arina Khitrina; e-mail: arina.khitrina@abavlad.ru

Name of Project: Combating Human Trafficking and Gender Based Violence

Brief Summary of Project/Organization:

American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional association in the world. With more than 400,000 members, the ABA provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, information about the law, programs to assist lawyers and judges in their work, and initiatives to improve the legal system for the public.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News:

On 18 June, ABA ROLI held a roundtable at the office of “Peace Fund” on “Role of business in combating violence at the workplace”. There were 11 participants, who represented the following businesses and NGOs: “Siberian Coal and Energy Company”, Primorsky regional branch, “Arktika” construction company, Federation of Trade Unions of Primorsky krai, Intellectual Agency “PRioritet”, Personnel Recruitment Agency “Ancor Vladivostok”, “Far Eastern Center” NGO and “Women Crisis Center Angel”. Additional speakers were ABA Vladivostok staff attorneys Ivan Pechorin and Arina Khitrina, and ABA Vladivostok legal intern Daniel Tyson. The discussion covered introduction to domestic violence and intimate partner violence at the workplace, impact of violence on productivity, profits, and employment opportunities for women. The local situation was then discussed including various options of responding to the problem.

The Essay Contest Award Ceremony’s was held on Friday, August 22nd, at the Vladivostok airport, VIP and Official Delegations Hall. Overall twenty entries were received for the Essay Contest. At the ceremony General Director of Vladivostok Avia, V.A. Saibel and the U.S. Consul General Tom Armbruster have handed out the certificates and small gifts to the contest participants. A winner Galina Isayeva is a third year student at Far Eastern National University in the Academy of Ecology, Marine Biology and Biochemistry and Biotechnology Department. She was awarded a free round-trip fare to Anchorage and spent a week sightseeing Alaska, visiting the Governor’s office and meeting with American students studying Russian language.

On August 29-30, 2008 Dianne Post and Ivan PECHORIN, ABA staff, conducted a skills training with the Madagan Regional Bar. A total of 27 attorneys attended. About half the lawyers were criminal law practitioners but the others did family law, housing, administrative and traffic offenses. A lot of new ideas had not yet been brought to the region nor did they often have an opportunity for in-person, interactive trainings. Therefore they especially valued the effort made by ABA ROLI.

A group photo from the Essay Contest Award ceremony on August 22, 2008



B. GREEN HOUSE/ “Municipal Community Alliances” Program (MuCAP)

<http://www.zelenyidom.narod.ru>

Contact Person: Sergey A. Pleshakov; e-mail: sergey@green-house.khv.ru

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: the Program is focused on involving inhabitants of 7 targeted rural raions of Khabarovskiy krai and Primorsky krai into the self-government process.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News:

The new stage of the settlement development start up

On August 29th, 2008 KKCPO Green House transferred funds to the last grantee among 46 grantees from 23 focus settlements from Khabarovskiy and Primorsky krai where active inhabitants formed development concepts for their settlements and started its implementation. Currently there are different enterprises being formed in the focus settlements such as agricultural companies (partnership for stocking up fodder, partnership for growing potatoes and berries, commercial horse breeding), tourist companies (establishing recreational areas, souvenirs workshops), sidewalk blocks production and joiner's shop, team for household maintenance, and service center. The social sphere is covered by establishing children art studios, sport grounds, design of gardens, repairing and equipping settlement clubs, health improvement rooms and even two rural cable channels.

Difficult but much needed activity was implemented everywhere. Now the settlements' reanimation is being put on the systematic base. During the next MuCAP stages the settlement active groups will gain practical experience and learn basics of rural management obtain project experience and build relationship with government, population and business. As the results the settlement development plans should obtain support from raions and regional government.

A water-supply system is built in Nagornoe settlement

Previously settlement inhabitants used water provided by water-carrier, which was expensive. There was a regular problem: lack of water supply. Nagornoe settlement became a focus settlement based on the results of the first grant round of the MuCAP. Nagornoe settlement active group was awarded a grant for



implementing the grant project on water-supply system construction. Grant funds were covering only third part of required expenses for installing pipes and water-distributing system. The remaining amount was a contribution gathered from settlement inhabitants in the amount from 3500 up to 8000 rubles from each family in the settlement. They also took an active part in the non skilled operations such as: trenching, installing pipes and water lock equipment.

As for now they build a water-supply system on 3 streets, and installed water-distributing system. Settlement inhabitants will build their personal water-supply systems

from the general lines next year. This project was co-financed from Pozharsky raion budget in the amount of 40 000 rubles.

Nagornoe settlement had fire started at night on September 5th. Hay stoked near one of the houses was in fire. Settlement inhabitants stood in a row and passed water from the wells to the fire and managed to save the house from catching a fire. Nagornoe settlement inhabitants are very grateful to the MuCAP for pushing them forward in building water-supply system. Otherwise several families would be left without their houses since Nagornoe settlement where only 800 people live doesn't have fire-engines.

The second initiative group of Nagornoe settlement during the previous Program stage implementation managed to combine inhabitant's efforts and fenced about 1,5 kilometers of the public pasture. This summer the project activity was continued. Nagornoe settlement inhabitants B.E. Musiichenko and V.N. Gibzun rented a tractor with seeder from JSC "Luchegorskoe" and reseeded the pasture with forage herbs on 18 hectares. Using grant funds initiative group purchased mowing-machine and stored up about 130 tones of hay. Now cattle farmers in Nagornoe settlement have an opportunity to purchase hay stoked by their settlement inhabitants for less than market price.

The settlement inhabitants think about their future plans: some of them want to develop beekeeping; the others want to develop culture and sport in the settlement. Anything that Nagornoe settlement inhabitants would start working on would be a success from now.

The Development Fund on Northern Primorye is in action



The project presentation on the Development Fund Expert Council meeting

The Development Fund of Northern Primorye established in Terneysky raion of Primorsky krai by NGO "Rynda" and large forestry enterprise JSC "Terneyles" under the Global Fund (Belgium) support conducted the second grant round for grant projects contest. The projects' presentation was held on July 23d. Each inhabitant of Terneysky raion could develop a project and submit it to the Expert Council evaluation. This right was used by 15 initiatives groups from 6 settlements. Based on the Expert Council decision there were 8 grant projects awarded. One additional project developed by the initiative group of Svetlaya settlement obtained personal funding support from Sergey Kurchinsky, the head of raion. At the result of the grant projects implementation the raion settlements will have streets and gardens improved, new sport and children playgrounds, and

the Museum of local history "Istok" will be opened in Terney settlement. Consolidation of monetary funds allows activate wider circle of population and promote establishing effective cooperation between public, government and business.

The first collective enterprise opening in Pozharskoe

The settlement head, A.M. Lysiak, is accepting the first sidewalk block produced on the settlement collective enterprise



The first collective enterprise established under the project “We have to live here” within the framework of the Municipal Community Alliances Program (MuCAP) started its activity in Pozharskoe focus settlement in Pozharsky raion. This enterprise is producing sidewalk blocks. The trial lot is produced and will be used for improving sidewalks in the settlement.

A great support was provided by trainer-consultant from the MuCAP Resource Center “Pervotsvet”, Konstantin Nabiulin in organizing the production process. The initiative group repaired and arranged the former boiler-room for the new workshop facility. The project participants studied the sidewalk blocks production in detail and made additionally required equipment.

Now active settlement inhabitants are developing areas for new durable sidewalks. When the settlement has new sidewalks build the cooperative members would produce sidewalk blocks for sale. It will be sold to the neighbor settlements which started to submit orders before the workshop opening. It is planned to spend part of the sales profit for implementing other ideas of the Pozharskoe settlement active group.

C. Management Systems International (MSI) “OUR RIGHTS” PROGRAM

www.advocacy-ru.org and www.msiworldwide.com

Contact Person: Natalia Khromova; e-mail: nkhromova@our-rights.kht.ru

Project name: Regional Advocacy (“Our Rights” Program)

Project summary: The goal is to strengthen the capacity of municipal and regional organizations to develop and implement advocacy initiatives and to seek for local and regional reforms in the interests of the people.

Project results: June – August 2008

The “Lets Help Children” website supported by the “Our Rights” program received the “Best non-profit project in the Far East” award. The



“Lets Help Children” website developed by Vladivostok Society for Supporting Children with the support of the “Our Right” grant program, was recognized at the “STERX-2008” information technology contest for being the Best Non-Profit Project in the Far East.

Olesia Eldemel, director of Vladivostok Society for Supporting Children, accepted the award from Albert Popkov, a guest of the Far East Week of Information Technology and the creator and co-owner of one of Russia’s most popular websites, Odnoklassniki.ru. (Classmates).

The project’s group, headed by Eldemel, reviewed the legal framework that regulates adopting families and developed recommendations, which were shared with parents and representatives of the government. Currently, a package of documents with very specific recommendations for improving family legislation in the region is being reviewed by the Primorsky Krai Legislature.

The Government authorities of Khor adopted a resolution holding municipal and housing services providers accountable to their community. The authorities of Khor town (Khabarovsky krai) recently approved a resolution requiring the local Municipal Housing Services Provider be accountable to the residents of apartment buildings. For the first time in the history of this community, there is a legal document for ensuring accountability in front of the residents about the effectiveness of using payments for housing and public utilities services, the implementation of reconstruction plan for repairing high rises that require public funding. The resolution was first approved at the Council of Deputies meeting and later signed by the Chariman of Khor Mr. Isaev. The resolution was passed thanks for the successful efforts of the Protection of Khor Citizens' Rights as Consumers of Municipal Services project implemented by NGO "*Budilnik*" operating within the framework of 'Our Rights' program.

Primorsky Krai Entrepreneurs Successfully Advocate To Remove Administrative Barriers.

Not until long ago, one of the biggest barriers to business development in Vladivostok was unreasonable fines imposed on the local entrepreneurs. Members of the *Nonprofit Partnership 'The League of Trading Businessmen'* monitored the administrative commission's activities and decision-making under the Transparency and Knowledge Are Ways of Protection project implemented under MSI's 'Our Rights' program. Project leaders successfully appealed to the court against the commission's decision that would adversely affect entrepreneurs in Vladivostok. Additionally, the League developed recommendations to amend the local legislation and succeeded in making authorities moderate tax regimes for some business activities.

Over 70 participants of the workshop "Mechanisms of protecting human rights" conducted in Khabarovsk on June 27 by Yuri Berezutsky, Ombudsman of the Khabarovsky krai, learned about the "Our Rights" program activities and projects. Participants of the workshop included krai Duma Deputies, representatives of NGOs, Youth Parliament of the Khabarovsky krai, educational institutions, Ombudsman's office and mass media. Representative of the Legal Department of the Academy of Economics and Law outlined legal framework for citizens to protect their rights; practical examples of citizen advocacy activities were presented by Yury Berezutsky, Ombudsman of the Khabarovsky krai, Nikolay Tsilurik, Chairman of the Krai Duma Committee on Human Rights and Social Protection, and "Our Rights" program grantees. The second half of the workshop was completely devoted to advocacy best practices represented exclusively by the MSI's 'Our Rights' program staff and grantees. The fact that the 'Our Rights' program was given significant place in this meeting is an evidence of a high level of trust and recognition from the krai Government to the program. Representatives of the "Our Rights" program described the program objectives and achievements and provided concrete examples of practical advocacy activities conducted by program grantees from the Khabarovsky krai. Ombudsman and participating authorities noted an importance of the activities conducted by the "Our Rights" program grantees and expressed their support of these activities. Presentations raised a big interest of the media. As a result, five media outlets covered activities under the "Our Rights" program, including the federal "Rossijskaja Gazeta" and "5th Channel" of the St Petersburg TV.

D. PROJECT HARMONY/COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS PROGRAM www.ccfussia.ru

Contact Person: Svetlana Laletina; e-mail: light@projectharmony.ru

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: (maximum of 2-3 sentences)

Community Connections is a 5-year USAID funded program started in 2005 which offers 3-5 week home-stay based practical training opportunities in the U.S. for entrepreneurs, local government officials, legal professionals, non-governmental organization leaders and other professionals from across the former Soviet Union.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News:

26 июня - 18 июля 2008 года группа из 10 российских специалистов проходила стажировку в г. Портленд (штат Орегон) в рамках программы "Сотрудничество профессиональных объединений - Россия" по теме "Создание партнерств для решения вопросов охраны окружающей среды". Участники представляли пять населенных пункты Приморского края, начиная от краевого центра и заканчивая отдаленным таёжным поселком.

За 21 день приморцы познакомились с практикой управления природными ресурсами в США, методами координации усилий представителей органов власти, некоммерческих организаций и корпораций с целью рационального использования природных ресурсов, а также воочию убедились в том, что может дать вовлечение общественности в решение вопросов охраны окружающей среды. Наиболее явно это было видно на примере Морского аквариума (Oregon Coast Aquarium), который занимает площадь в 29 акров и содержит около 190 видов морских обитателей и при этом является некоммерческой организацией, существующей на пожертвования местного населения и организаций.

Программа пребывания, организованная Советом по международным отношениям штата Орегон (World Affairs Council of Oregon), была составлена с учетом пожеланий участников делегации и включала посещение государственных учреждений, таких как Департамент рыболовства штата, встречи с представителями НКО, среди которых была организация Oregon Wild, успешно работающая с 1974 года, а также волонтерскую акцию по уборке пляжа в Ньюпорте. По признанию участников, эта акция впечатлила их тем, что единственными «находками» за два часа поисков по побережью стали несколько веревок и кусок резины.

Об успешности этой программы можно с уверенностью сказать уже сейчас: едва вернувшись в Россию, прямо в аэропорту, некоторые участники группы координировали свои дальнейшие совместные действия.

E. PROJECT HARMONY/YOUTH LINX (Youth Learning, Involvement, Networking and eXchange of ideas) PROGRAM <http://www.projectharmony.ru/>

Contact Person: Irina Subbotina; e-mail: Irina@projectharmony.ru

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: Since September 2005 "Project Harmony Inc." has been implementing Youth LINX Program in Russia in partnership with "Center of innovative public initiatives". Youth LINX Program's main goal is to contribute into development of a vibrant democratic culture among Russian youth, demonstrated through youth leadership and cross-regionally coordinated civic action, as well as to contribute into youth learning of successful activities and effective cooperation skills while solving social and civil issues. On Far-East the program is being implemented in Primorsky region and Amur region (cities of Vladivostok and Blagoveschensk and the nearby smaller towns).

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: Since September 2005 “Project Harmony Inc.” is implementing Youth LINX Program in Russia in partnership with “Center of innovative public initiatives”. Youth LINX Program’s main goal is to contribute into development of a vibrant democratic culture among Russian youth, demonstrated through youth leadership and cross-regionally coordinated civic action, as well as to contribute into youth learning of successful activities and effective cooperation skills while solving social and civil issues. On Far-East the program is being implemented in Primorsky region and Amur region (cities of Vladivostok and Blagoveschensk and the nearby smaller towns).

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News (June-August 2008)

Vladivostok Youth LINX:

The meeting with USAID representatives took place on August 21st. Participants of the meeting: USAID/Russia Mission Director Leon “Skip” Waskin and his Assistant Andrey Rumyantsev, Senior Regional Advisor Jess Bratton, USAID Program Representative on Russian Far East Irina Lindberg, Youth LINX regional coordinator Tamara Terekhova, LINX projects’ leaders, activists and volunteers – members of Students’ Trainers academy, Youth Union of Primorsky region, Union of Blind women of Vladivostok and others. Young participants presented their implemented projects and plans for their continuation. As one of the program’s results in the region the most important for youth topics have been detected: youth and students self-government, leadership training, law and legislature learning.



Vladivostok Youth LINX grantees:

Name of Project: Live the life.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: Attracting youth’s attention to active sport as a way of advocating healthy way of life.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: June 27th, the discussion (round table) on the topic “Sport and youth” took place in the office space of the Far-eastern State University. 20 participants took part in the event, discussing the results of the survey held among youth and students of Vladivostok on the topic of healthy way of life and active sport leisure time, detecting the level of information available for youth in this field. The decision to create the Students’ sport society was the result of the discussion.

Name of Organization: Students` trade union of DVGU (Far East State University)

Contact Person: Maxim Pryazhennikov.

Name of Project: Youth Union of Primorsky kray.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: The objective of the project is creating Youth Union of Primorsky kray and working with active youth of Vladivostok and Primorsky kray, organizing trainings.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News:

- June 20th, the training was organized for active members of Trade unions of Primorsky region. 24 participants attended the event implemented with the support of the Federation of Trade Unions of Primorsky region. The main obstacles for youth entering the trade unions were detected and the ways to overcome such situation.

- June 27th, the Forum of Active youth of Primorsky region took place with almost 130 persons as participants – members of the following public and youth organizations: Students` council and the Academy of students leaders of the Far-eastern State University, the united students` council of Vladivostok state university of economics and service, Students` council of the Maritime state university, Students trainers` union of Primorsky region, “Young Guard”, “Students for future of the country together with the President”, “Zhizn`” (“Life”), “Volunteers` corps, Rotaract club “Vladivostok Eco”, “We are united”, Youth council of the Trade unions` Federation of Primorsky region, UN model on Russian Far East. 12 organizations have made a decision to enter the Youth council.

Name of Organization: Blind Women Union.

Contact Person: Evgeniya Merkoulouva.

Name of Project: Help your friend to become independent: experience dissemination.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: Disseminating successful project`s experience of previous projects involving youth with physical disabilities. Originally the project was devoted to involving youth people with physical disabilities into active social life.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: On June 20th the project participants organized the online conference for youth with physical disabilities from the town Svobodny, Amursky region, in order to disseminate the successful experience of Vladivostok project – the experience of involving youth with vision problems into active social life. 31 persons participated in the three-hours long online event, discussing the implemented youth projects, ideas of supporting youth, creating active networks of youth and possibilities for cooperation.

Name of Organization: Students` trade union of DVGU (Far-East state university)

Contact Person: Alexander Kaydanovitch

Name of Project: Festival of youth projects.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: The Action “Youth LINX Program in faces” was held on April-May 2008 in the towns of the Youth LINX program activity. As a Far-Eastern part of the Action, the Festival of youth projects in Vladivostok took place on May 23rd.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: On June 11th the Round table took place where the results of the whole project (Festival of youth projects) were discussed. The participants were exchanging ideas and experience in order to continue active work for youth and with youth.

Contact Person: Igor Semyonov.

Name of Project: Vladivostok by the eyes of a foreigner.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: Youth involvement into the process of preparation to the summit of Asia-Pacific Economic cooperation.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: On June 5th the Round table took place. The topic was “Vladivostok just before the APEC summit” and 33 participants attended the event discussing the possibilities for youth (now school pupils) to participate in preparing the event, because that is supposed to become an important part of youth involvement into social and political life of Vladivostok.

Name of Organization: Regional public organization “Club of educational managers “Position”.

Contact Person: Alla Andrissonova.

Name of Project: My Constitution.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: The project is aimed on increasing legal culture of youth of Vladivostok and Arsenyev. The events of the project are implemented in cooperation of public organizations, educational institutions and young volunteers.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: On the final seminar which took place on June 30th, the materials of the whole already implemented project were presented. The participants, 26 persons in total, were specialists of department of education of the towns of Arsenyev and Dalnegorsk, representatives of schools where the further project will be implemented (towns Arsenyev, Artyom, Dalnegorsk, Ussuriysky town district). The participants also exchanged the ideas and ways to make the youth club “Vmestye” (“Together”) more active in its work.



Blagoveschensk Youth LINX grantees:

Contact Person: Nikolay Boltenkov.

Name of Project: Informing youth about damage caused by smoking and ways of prophylaxis.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: Attracting students` attention to the problem of smoking. Organizing primary diagnostics. Informing the students with social, psychological and medical consequences of smoking.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: The preliminary training for 10 young volunteers took place on June 2nd – developing their leadership and communicational skills which would allow them to hold the trainings about healthy way of life for youth. The series of informational meetings for youth was organized since June 3rd till June 7th on the tourist base in the settlement Belogorye, Amursky region. Each meeting was attended by at least 25 persons. The discussion “Is smoking appropriate everywhere?” took place in the Amursky state university on June 16th, with 55 participating students.

Contact Person: Tatyana Parounova.

Name of Project: Vector of success.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: The project is aimed on developing initiative of Blagoveschensk youth through project management education (acquiring skills in creating and implementing different projects solving issues of local community).

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: The informational meetings of active project participants and youth (students) of Blagoveschensk took place in the beginning of June where importance of acquiring project management skills was discussed. The meetings took place in the Amursky state university and Blagoveschensk state pedagogical university. The master-class “Project activity” have been taking place since 10th till 21st of June which consisted from theoretical and practical parts, and also showing presentations of 30 participants.

Name of Organization: Blagoveschensk city public fund “Creative youth of Amur”.

Contact Person: Marina Nud`ga.

Name of Project: “World, accept me as an equal one”.

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: The project is being implemented by the group of young volunteers and is involving youth with physical disabilities (with hearing problems) into active social life. The project also advocates the tolerance towards different members of the community and preparing young volunteers for further work.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: In June the project volunteers held the events (meetings) in order to create a booklet about the project experience. During the meetings young participants had an opportunity to exchange ideas and experience. The published booklet is being distributed since July by the project volunteers via different local public organizations and other contacts. The objective now is to disseminate the successful experience of the project.

F. IREX “DIALOGUE” PROGRAM

Contact Person: Andrey Cheshev; e-mail: acheshev@irex.ru

Итоговый семинар Тихоокеанской коалиции в Биробиджане.



В период с 3 по 5 июля 2008 года в городе Биробиджане состоялся семинар в рамках проекта «Тихоокеанская коалиция по содействию реформе ЖКХ: от энтузиазма – к профессионализму».

На семинар собрались представители Тихоокеанской коалиции из городов: Чита, Благовещенск, Биробиджан, Хабаровск, Южно-Сахалинск и Владивосток, для того чтобы обменяться опытом работы и представить свой

«продукт» - новые дополнительные образовательные программы для взрослого населения и учащихся общеобразовательных школ в областях жилищного самоуправления и защиты жилищных прав собственников и нанимателей жилья.

Членами Тихоокеанской коалиции всего разработано и предложено к применению 12 образовательных программ, которые были апробированы в ходе реализации проекта, финансируемого IREX, при технической поддержке Программы поддержки гражданского общества «Диалог».

Семинар стал своего рода смотром достижений организаций Тихоокеанской коалиции полученных в ходе реализации программ в Дальневосточном федеральном округе и показателем того, что USAID стратегически правильно выбрал приоритеты, оказывая поддержку проектам в сфере жилищно-коммунального хозяйства.

Еще в ходе проведения семинара проявили интерес к продукту Тихоокеанской коалиции администрации Благовещенска, Биробиджана и Владивостока, который предложили продвигать его в своих муниципалитетах.

Участники семинара на практике продемонстрировали свои образовательные программы и опыт жилищного обучения, проведя в городе Биробиджане для жителей, представителей муниципалитета и бизнеса в сфере ЖКХ показательный практический семинар. При этом ими был проявлен не только личный профессионализм каждого участника, но и слаженное коалиционное взаимодействие, когда собравшиеся практически со всего Дальнего Востока представители Тихоокеанской коалиции совместно представляли единый профессиональный коллектив.

Гости и эксперты семинара дали высокую оценку, как новым образовательным программам жилищного просвещения и обучения, так и мастерству команд преподавателей, тренеров и консультантов Тихоокеанской коалиции по содействию реализации реформы местного самоуправления и ЖКХ в Дальневосточном федеральном округе.

II. HEALTHCARE AND CHILDREN SOCIAL SUPPORT

A. FIRE FLY/ EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM <http://www.fireflykids.org>

Contact Person: Olga Bakhmetieva; e-mail: obakhmetieva@fireflykids.org

US Consul General Welcomes Participants of "Keep Baby Home" project in Vladivostok:

On June 23rd US Consul General Tom Armbruster and the USAID Representative in the RFE welcomed Ms. Shonda Werry, Program Director, and participants attending "Keeping Baby Home" project seminar. The seminar was conducted by FireFly within USAID-funded IREX's ARO program. The third of four intensive week-long trainings was held in Vladivostok and brought together over 30 specialists from various polyclinics, universities, rehabilitation centers and other organizations from Vladivostok and new Early Intervention sites of Primorye Region, thus disseminating innovative skills in child abandonment prevention and services for at-risk children and families throughout the area.



US CG Tom Armbruster with FireFly Seminar Participants

B. WINROCK “LIDER” (Leadership, Initiative, Action, Unity, Result) PROGRAM
www.lider.winrock.ru

Contact Person: Olga Schetinina; e-mail: oschetinina@winrock.ru

Brief Summary of Project/Organization: Youth Advocacy and Social Networks Program

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News:

Reproductive Health: Right, Choice, and Responsibility

June 30-July 1, 2008 a seminar titled *Reproductive Health: Choice, Right, Responsibility* was held in Khabarovsk for the LIDER program grantees. The seminar was organized by the Family Planning Center and held by its trainers Irina Taenkova, Alina Taenkova, Elena Gorislavets. The aim of the seminar was to increase the LIDER program's youth NGO grantees competence in reproductive health issues and innovative forms of preventive measures. Twenty participants received information kits including posters, table games, video and brochures to be used in their organizations.

Summer School for Youth Leaders



From July 7 – 13, 2008 the LIDER program conducted the first Far Eastern Youth School on Social Projects on Russki Island in Primorski krai. During the week, Youth Advisory Council members and initiative group leaders from Primorski and Khabarovsk krai youth organizations learned techniques for designing social projects. The Far Eastern Scientific Center for Self-governance invited experts for thematic groups, who provided consultative assistance to young people in a variety of topical groups on governance, health, ecology, education, and youth entrepreneurship. The outcome of the Summer School was the elaboration of projects, which will be a part of the LIDER “Partnership Grants” competition in September. This event was a part of LIDER’s “Seven Weeks of Youth Activism” campaign.

Round Table: Youth Policy in the Krai and the City – Conditions, Problems, and Solutions

On June 17, the Far Eastern Scientific Centre for Self-governance (FESC) conducted a round table titled “Youth Policy in the Krai and the City – Conditions, Problems, and Solutions” as part of the Winrock International LIDER program financed by USAID. The Khabarovsk Administration Minister of Health, the Deputy of the Krai *Duma*, youth public chamber representatives, and students from Khabarovsk universities participated in the event. During the round table, FESC Director Nina Petrovna Polichka presented the results of the Assets and Opportunities Assessment on youth problems and motivations in Khabarovskiy krai, which was conducted in March 2008 by the LIDER program. After the presentation, there was a heated dispute about youth problems and their solutions. Problems such as health, education, employment, and youth participation in community life were discussed. As a result the round table, participants concluded that it was necessary to reduce the gap between the administration and youth to solve young people's problems. This reduction can be achieved by attracting young people to participate in youth politics. The LIDER program is the first involving young people directly in local governance.

Tourist Orientation



On July 20, 2008, a tourist orientation competition took place near Zdravnitsa (Korsakovo village, Khabarovskii krai). This event was conducted as a part of the LIDER "Seven Weeks of Youth Activism" campaign implemented by Winrock International and funded by USAID. Thirty-six young people from Khabarovskii krai clubs participated in the event. The LIDER Youth Advisory Council organized the overall event. Volunteer youth from the *Gran* center for youth social adaptation were engaged in the preparation and organization of the event. This activity was conducted as part of the first LIDER mini-grant, which was implemented by Youth Advisory Council members. Ninety-two percent of participants enjoyed the competition and were already prepared to take part in similar events. In total, 36 teenagers received new emotions. Also, the team work strengthened collective spirit and gave each youth the opportunity to show his or her worth.

The Second Issue of the "LIDER" Journal



In August the LIDER program published the second issue of its journal. This issue describes the most recent activities of the program and its Youth Advisory Councils. One activity of note has been the launching of two grant competitions for youth groups: Replicating Effective Programs and Modules for Youth, and a Short Film Contest for the best public service announcement on health and well being. The journal also contains a series of interesting interviews on youth topics with the Ministry of Economic Development and External Relations of Khabarovskii krai, Mr. Alexandr Levintal, the authors of the Assets and Opportunities Assessment, Yuriy Berezutskii and Olga Shestak, and health expert Larissa Zhitnikova. The issue also provides background on some of the members of the Youth Advisory Council as well as useful information for NGOs on how to write press-releases. It also contains announcements regarding upcoming activities on NGO strengthening, training courses, and additional youth competitions.

LOTUS PROTECTION

("Pervotsvet," Luchegorsk, Primorski krai)

At the Solenaya Pad Lake in Primorskiy Krai, the population of unique lotus flowers, which were entered into the Red Book, was degenerating. In August, the social, ecological organization "Pervotsvet" organized an annual tourist camp called "Lotus-2008." During the two week camp, young biologists protected the Komarov lotus from a harsh rush of tourists and locals, picked up trash around the lake, and conducted water biomonitoring under the guidance of "Alive Water Center" Director Tatyana Vshivkova. Leadership skills trainings took place throughout the camp program. The organizers wanted to raise young activists, able not only to organize interesting events, but also to lead people and shine with new ideas. Now, the whole lake is in bloom. This indicates the significance of the work of the children and adults who took care of the flowers. This event was implemented with grant funds from the LIDER program, which is implemented by Winrock International and funded by USAID.



Seminars on “Government as a Resource for Youth Problem Solving”

The Far Eastern Scientific Centre for Self-Governance and Winrock International conducted seminars entitled “Government as a Resource for Youth Problem Solving” in Khabarovsk on August 19 and in Vladivostok on August 21 as part of the USAID-funded LIDER program. Members of the Youth Advisory Council, local authorities of Slavyanka and Nadezhdinsk settlements and the new staff of Vladivostok Youth Department participated in the events. During the seminars, participants assessed the work of local authorities in addressing youth issues and the status of municipal policies on youth. The seminars explained at what point and how youth activists interact with government and advocate to solve youth problems.

C. IREX ASSISTANCE TO RUSSIAN ORPHANS (ARO) PROGRAM www.irex.ru

Contact Person: Joseph DeVeney; e-mail: jdeveny@aro.ru

Foster Family Services in Komsomol'sk-na-Amure

On June 16-18, an ARO expert led an educational seminar on support services for foster families at the municipal and village level. Sixteen specialists from Komosol'sk-na-Amure Boarding School #2, Komosol'sk-na-Amure Orphanage #1, and Amursk Orphanage #1 attended the seminar. The participants studied the unique features of children who have experienced trauma to develop practical skills for working with them. The ARO expert then discussed specialized support programs designed specifically for traumatized children living in foster families. These programs are incorporated into the general system of support services for foster families, and help keep foster families together by working to solve misunderstandings and conflicts before they escalate. In 2007, 6,000 families returned the orphaned and abandoned children placed in their care, highlighting the importance of comprehensive support for foster families.

Family Intervention in Komsomol'sk-na-Amure

On June 16-19, two ARO experts conducted an educational seminar for 24 specialists from social welfare institutions and custody departments of the Central and Leninsky districts of Komsomol'sk-na-Amure in the Russian Far East. The seminar introduced participants to techniques used to identify troubled families and work with them at the earliest stages possible in order to prevent child abandonment. ARO experts explained the fundamental principles of case management and how specialists should work with at-risk families to set personal goals and achieve them.

E. Vishnevskaya-Rostropovich Foundation (VRF)/ Hemophilus Type B Infection Prevalence Study and Immunization in the Russian Far East www.rostropovich.org; www.spbfvr.ru

Contact Person: Elena Frolova; e-mail: hlnss@spbfvr.ru

I. BACKGROUND

There are 250,000-300,000 cases of meningitis caused by Hemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) infection and 40,000-50,000 deaths caused by these meningitis registered annually in the world. Hib is a serious and fully preventable infection affecting young children. Hib infection was common among infants and children under 5 years of age in Western Europe and the United States until the introduction of Hib conjugated vaccines in the early 1990s. The Russian Federation (RF) is one of the few European nations which have not yet aggressively investigated the incidence of Hib among its pediatric population. That is why Hib conjugated vaccine is not included into the National Immunization Calendar of the RF.

To address the above problem Vishnevskaya-Rostropovich Foundation (VRF) conducts the scientific research study and analysis of the prevalence of Hib meningitis at four cities of the RFE and then mount the pilot Hib vaccination program in the RFE.

Diagnosis and Prevention of *Haemophilus influenzae type b* – epidemiological monitoring and introduction of the new vaccine that is to become a part of the National Immunization Schedule

Modernization of Primary Care – supplying computer hard and specially developed software for immunization programs run the children’s municipal outpatient clinics and rural central district hospitals.

Assistance to Street Children of the City of St. Petersburg – this endeavor was launched in September 2008. It encompasses better coordination and optimization of the efforts made in this area of activity by many stakeholders – NGOs and governmental organizations.

III. EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A. U.S.-RFE MUNICIPAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Contact Person: Marina Kirsanova; e-mail: mkirsanova@fraec.org

Implemented by:

Foundation for Russian American Economic Cooperation (FRAEC)

www.fraec.org

Institute for Urban Economics (IUE) www.urbaneconomics.ru

Far East Center for Social Innovation centerdv@mail.ru

The U.S.-Russian Far East Municipal Partnership Program promotes local self-governance in the Russian Far East to make it more responsive to the needs and priorities of citizens. By supporting training programs, continuing education opportunities, and joint municipal partnership projects between cities in the states of Washington and Alaska and the Russian Far East, the program will develop and disseminate social and economic development strategies and improve and institutionalize public administration skills among current and future government administrators in the Russian Far East.

In the period between June and August 2008 the Program conducted the following events:

June, 18-20 in Khabarovsk, and **June, 25- 27** in Elizovo, Kamchatka, - FECSI specialists conducted the training for deputies and local government officials, specialists on small and medium business development. The training was “Assisting small and medium business development”. The participants were familiarized with the legal framework for local self-governance bodies regarding small and medium business development, as well as responsibilities, and types of work on entrepreneurship development. The training provided the analysis of the municipal practices to address the issues of assisting small and medium business development.

Within this reporting period FECSI conducted 3 trainings through technical assistance programs for Artem city, Primorsky krai, Belogorsky district, Amurskaya oblast, and Elizovsky district, Kamchatsky Krai.

Municipal Exchange U.S.-Russian Far East Municipal Partnership Program

July 26 – August 4, 2008

In September 2007, FRAEC launched the U.S.-Russian Far East Municipal Partnership Program. Funded by the Mission to the Russian Federation of the U.S. Agency for International Development, this three-year program builds on the momentum of local self-governance reform in Russia and uses international and domestic best practices in municipal governance to **transform local self-governance in the Russian Far East into a viable component of open and participatory society.**

The involved Russian Far East municipalities, including, the city of Sovetskaya Gavan (Khabarovsk Krai), Slavyanka Urban Settlement (Primorsky Krai), and Khabarovsk Municipal District (Khabarovsk Krai) went through a USAID approved selection process to participate in the Municipal Exchange of the U.S.-Russian Far East Municipal Partnership Program.

FRAEC conducted a selection process to identify the Washington State partner cities that have demonstrated experience in resolving issues that are of high priority to the RFE municipalities. The city of Bremerton, WA has been identified as a partner city for Sovetskaya Gavan; the city of Seattle has been identified as a partner city for Khabarovsk Municipal District. University Place, WA has been identified as a partner city for Slavyanka Urban Settlement.

Three groups consisting of 13 Russian Far East participants traveled to Seattle July 26th to August 4 for a ten-day municipal exchange program of trainings, site visits, and cultural and social activities. The municipal exchange has been designed to provide opportunities for Russian Far East municipalities to improve skills in developing effective local social and economic development policies. During the exchange visit the participants, including local government officials, community leaders, and representatives of local self-governance institutions:

- Acquired new knowledge on local self-governance, social and economic development through site-visits, training and seminars;
- Shared ideas and lessons learned on good governance, social and economic development;
- Developed partnership relations and began to develop a joint project between the U.S. and Russian Far East municipalities for implementation in their Russian Far East city.

The participants were accompanied by FRAEC staff while they were in the US to ensure progress toward the program goals. In addition, Liudmila Khakhaleva and Ekaterina Fedorova from FECSI and German Vetrov from IUE accompanied each group in order to provide technical context support.



Natalia Kushnareva, Slavyanka municipal officer, tests University Place firefighting gear in recruit Jeremy Johansen's coat.

B. RFE OFFICE OF THE NEW EURASIA FOUNDATION (FNE RFE)

www.neweurasia-rfe.ru

Contact Person: Lada Progunova; **e-mail:** lprogunova@neweurasia-rfe.ru

Brief Summary of Organization:

The New Eurasia Foundation (FNE), a Russian nongovernmental organization, was founded in April 2004 by the U.S.-based Eurasia Foundation, the Brussels-based European Madariaga Foundation, and Russia's Dynasty Foundation. The New Eurasia Foundation has been operating since October 1, 2004.

FNE Mission:

The New Eurasia Foundation enhances people's lives through effective social and economic development programs carried out at the regional and local levels. We attract and apply the best international expertise and innovative technologies available and consolidate the efforts of the public and private sectors to ensure programmatic effectiveness.

1. Name of Project: *Music without Borders*

Under the initiative of the US Consulate General in Vladivostok the New Eurasia Foundation Russian Far East Affiliate office hosted the Long Island Youth Orchestra from New-York city for ten days in Vladivostok as the *Music without Borders* project coordinator. The 75-piece youth orchestra played at the Philharmonic Hall twice, participated in a series of youth outreach, community service, and charity events that reached thousands of Russians. Many of the local companies supported this project. Thanks to the project, the Children's Foundation was aided from the funds donated by the companies. Among other activities members of the Orchestra enjoyed day-long home stays with Russian families.



Music without Borders might serve as an example of a bilateral social partnership project implemented on a regional level with significant local resources attracted. The total amount of local sponsorship and donations for the project consisted of 750.000RUB or 31,900USD and as well a number of in-kind contributions from local administrations, NGOs, and volunteers.

2. Name of Project: *Asia-Pacific Social Investment Forum in the Russian Far East*

On July 25, 2008 The New Eurasia Foundation Russian Far East Affiliate Office, in partnership with the Primorsky Krai Administration held the Forum under a slogan *Through Partnerships towards Regional Prosperity*. The goal of the Forum was to promote the idea of social investments through the creation of partnerships between local/regional authorities, businesses and non-commercial organizations (NGOs) for successful territory socio-economic development. Almost 250 CEOs and owners of medium and large businesses from the Russian Far East regions as well as NGO representatives and local/regional authorities who work in partnership with businesses participated in the event. Lubov Drozdova, Primorsky Vice-Governor on Social Policies, Tom Armbruster, Consul General, The U.S. Consulate General in Vladivostok, Masaesi Kamokhara, Consul General, The Japan Consulate General in Vladivostok, Irina Lindberg, USAID Program Representative in Russian Far East addressed to the Forum participants with greeting speeches and wished them successful and fruitful work.



At the keynote speeches session the key Russian and international experts on CSR issues – Leonid Polischuk, Associate Director, Center for Institutional Reform and the Informal Sector, University of Maryland, USA, Elena Feoktistova, Director of CSR Department, RSPP, Moscow, Nancy Glaser, Business School, Stanford University, USA shared their vision of social investments tendencies in Russia and abroad. The representatives of Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd., “V-Laser”, Commercial Port of Vladivostok

and others made presentations at the plenary session about role of business in territory social development. Also the Forum participants shared their experience on companies’ social strategy implementation.

The master-class “CSR and Managing People” (Nancy Glaser, Stanford University, USA) was especially useful for the businessmen who could get practical knowledge on CSR place within marketing strategy of a company.

OTV-Prim was the General Information Sponsor of the event. Far East business newspaper “Golden Horn”, “Far Eastern Capital” magazine, Informational Agency “Vostok-Media”, and “Doragae Udovol’svie” Magazine were Forum media partners.

3. Name of Project: *Together towards Successful Business*

Brief Summary of Project *(maximum of 2-3 sentences)*



Since November 2007 till July 2008 the New Eurasia Foundation Far Eastern Affiliate Office (FNE RFE) together with the Yuzhnoprimorsky Entrepreneurs Union, and LLC “Biznes-Gazeta” implemented a joint project. The initiative is aimed to strengthening the Union role in defending its members’ rights through business ethics norms adaptation and broadening an access to high quality educational services. The project provided a monthly seminar-training devoted to various aspects of entrepreneurial activity and follow-up thematic publications in “Biznes-Gazeta”. Basing on the other Russian territories’ experience, the project planned the

development of “Business Ethics Code” for the Yuzhnoprimorsky Entrepreneurs Union members and popularizing the principles of civilized business conduct among the Union members.

Brief Summary of Recent Event/Project News: *(maximum of 300 words)*

In June, 2008 in Artyom City and Vol'no-Nadezhdenskoe Town the New Eurasia Foundation Far Eastern Affiliate Office (FNE RFE), the Yuzhnoprimorsky Entrepreneurs Union, and LLC "Biznes-Gazeta" presented the "Business Ethics Code" that was developed for the members of the Yuzhnoprimorsky Entrepreneurs Union. Following the recommendations of the Russian Chamber of Trade and Industry and the Russian Union of Manufacturers and Entrepreneurs, a group of lawyers drafted the Code. The document intends ensuring public confidence in honesty and professionalism of businessmen and consolidating efforts of all conscientious entrepreneurs to guarantee providing high quality goods and services. Also, the Code establishes ethical norms of the Union members' activity. During the discussions all participants – not only the Union members, but the representatives of regional and local administrations, supervision and control organizations, credit institutions, etc., - stressed the importance of this initiative for Primorsky Krai and the whole Far Eastern territories. The adoption of the Code will become not only an important landmark for the Union as an association of like-minded persons who accept the same principles of business conduct, but it will be also the first step on the path to transformation into a self-administered organization. In this sense including of Business Ethic Commission Statute into the document is especially important. The Commission will investigate every case of improper business behavior of the Union members that will help to resolve conflict situations between businessmen and customers or between entrepreneurs and supervision and control organizations. At the meetings the drafted Code was adopted as a base document for further elaboration. All comments and additions will be incorporated in the document by a working commission and it is expected the final version of the Code will be adopted by the Union at Annual Conference of the Union in November, 2008.

C. CFP/Implementation of the budget reform on local level www.fpcenter.ru

Contact Person: Natalia Scribunova; e-mail: nscribunova@fpcenter.org

The Center for Fiscal Policy Assists Primorye Municipal Experts with USAID-funded Program: On July 8-9, the Center for Fiscal Policy conducted a seminar for over 60 municipal financiers, experts in self-governance, and heads of municipal entities from Primorye Region within the USAID-funded project "Implementation of Administrative and Fiscal Reforms on Local Level." The seminar, named "Budget Resources Management on the Municipal Level," focused on the issues of budget performance, strategic municipal and financial planning, and evaluation indicators for governments and self-governance entities. To observe the program outcomes, USAID staff proceeded to meet with the representatives of the mayor's office of the city of Ussuryisk, as this city was the pilot municipality in the RFE for USAID Project.



Photo 1. USAID Representative Olga Selivanova (in the center) and the Seminar participants in Artem

Photo 2. Irina Lindberg and Olga Selivanova from USAID at the meeting with Ussuryisk Mayor's Office representatives.

**D. IUE/ IMPROVED LOCAL GOVERNANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:
TRANSITION TO SMART GROWTH PROGRAM www.urbaneconomics.ru**

Contact Person: Alexander Puzanov; e-mail: apuzanov@urbaneconomics.ru

NAME OF PROJECT:

USAID Cooperative Agreement

Improved Local Governance and Economic Development: Transition to Smart Growth

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PROJECT:

Program objective is to improve local self-governance in the Russian Federation through improving the quality of work performed by local governments.

Program contributes to forming up-to-date skills and abilities needed for taking local level decisions; enhancing efficiency of municipal resources' management; budget process openness; involving local population in mutually beneficial cooperation with local government; teaching local officials and NGO how to provide effective social and utility services; improving qualification of managing officials of local government and local municipalities, NGO leaders in working out a socio-economic development policy.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF RECENT EVENT/PROJECT NEWS:

NAME OF PROJECT COMPONENT:

Project «Development of comprehensive municipal programs of social and economic development with regard to specific features of distant territories»

Alexander Puzanov was invited by the Primorsky kray Administration to attend Pacific Economic Congress on 26-27 July. Puzanov made a presentation on criteria of cities' attractiveness at the session of the Pacific Economic Congress. The presentation was based on the analysis of municipal strategies of RFE cities developed in cooperation with IUE.

In June-August two meetings with N. Kovtun (vice-mayor of Bolshoy Kamen) were held. The main priorities of city Strategy and IUE participation in Strategy design were discussed. D. Vizgalov has collected materials for Strategy content. June – September of 2008 – is the period of Strategy elaboration. The presentation of the Strategy of long term municipal development of Bolshoy Kamen (Primorskiy Kray) is expected in October of 2008. The administration of Bolshoy Kamen takes an active part in the process.

NAME OF PROJECT COMPONENT:

Project “Assistance in developing LSG in the Far East – support for ASFEC and other municipal associations”

Ragozina and Gentsler made reports in Novosibirsk at the Forum of the Heads of Municipalities under the Association of Siberian and Far East Cities (ASFEC), which took place on June 6, 2008. Heads of 60 municipalities participated in the Forum, as well as the governor of Novosibirsk Oblast and representatives of other independent associations of municipalities (Inter-regional association of cities – centers of constituent entities of the RF – IAC, Association of the Cities of the Central and North-Western Russia). The main topic of the Forum was the status of the municipal reform and HUS reform, and introduction of indicators of evaluation of municipalities. I. Gentsler made a presentation on 'Municipal legal acts for the development and implementation of municipal targeted programs for the capital repairs of multifamily buildings within the Federal Law #185-FZ. The presentation generated much interest and was distributed among the participants of the conference.

Ragozina made the following presentations:

- People's assessment of the quality and accessibility of social services based on the results of monitoring the LSG reform, and
- LSG bodies performance efficiency evaluation: approaches and indicators.

Results of monitoring the quality and accessibility of services in healthcare, employment procurement, social assistance (protection) and registration of acts of civil status, which are provided to the population in pilot municipalities. Results of monitoring were presented at the Forum of ASFEC in June 2008.

NAME OF PROJECT COMPONENT:

Introduction and Dissemination of the Results-Based Program for Targeted Social Assistance “Self-Sufficiency” in the Far East

In July the project team finalized and published the guidelines on the program for targeted social assistance “Self-Sufficiency”. The guidelines were sent to social protection departments of each Far Eastern region. Also the team made the presentation of the guidelines at the Forum of Social Workers of Siberia and Far East held in Novosibirsk on July, 22-23. Thereby the project has been completed.

NAME OF PROJECT COMPONENT:

Dissemination of the social voucher technology

In July and August the project team conducted the monitoring of two social voucher programs run by the city administration of Ussuriysk. One program provides poor households with food, the other one provides lonely elderly people with hairdressing. The team conducted interviews with programs' administrators, service providers and service recipients and submitted the administration with recommendations on further implementation of both programs.

Also the project team continued working on the guidelines on social voucher tool and prepared the draft. In September the guidelines will be finalized and published. The team intends to send the guidelines to administrations of each Far Eastern region and each main region's municipality.

NAME OF PROJECT COMPONENT:

Assistance municipal utility infrastructure development in the Far East

During their trip to ZATO Bolshoi Kamen on 25-27 July Prokofyev and Zhuravlev held a seminar on designing a program of comprehensive development of utility infrastructure of the city okrug, the seminar was attended by deputy mayor G.V.Mityayev, representatives of utility companies, architectural department and HUS committee.

Prokofyev, Zhuravlev, Rodionov entered amendments into the program of comprehensive development of utility infrastructure in accordance with comments and proposals made by the administration of the city okrug ZATO Bolshoi Kamen. Draft program of comprehensive development of utility infrastructure was approved by the Duma of the city okrug ZATO Bolshoi Kamen.

Also IUE experts provided consultancy on designing programs of comprehensive development of utility infrastructure for the administrations of the following cities: Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky, Ussuriysk, Yakutsk.

NAME OF PROJECT COMPONENT:

Monitoring and evaluation of housing allowance programs

M. Rumyantseva analyzed the housing allowances program currently implemented in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky and discussed the results of analysis with the city administration during her trip there. Rumyantseva held a seminar on the analysis of the program of allowances currently executed in Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky and on the main tracks of reforming this program for bringing it in line with the federal allowances program. The seminar was organized for experts from various subdivisions of the city administration related to granting allowances. She made a report on reforming social assistance policies related to payments for housing and utilities, at a business meeting organized by the ministry of social development of Kamchatsky Krai.

E. COUNTERPART ENTERPRISE FUND/ MICRO-CREDIT PROGRAM

Contact Person: Aleksei Shumilov; e-mail: cef@cef.khv.ru; Aleksei@cef.khv.ru

Кравченко Александр Иванович: предприниматель из г. Бикин расширил производство и продажу выпечки, строит новое кафе

Александр Иванович переехал в г. Бикин Хабаровского края почти двадцать лет назад. Всю свою жизнь он проработал машинистом на железнодорожной станции водоснабжения, оттуда и ушел на пенсию. Но характер и активная жизненная позиция не позволили ему сидеть без дела. В 2000 году Александр Иванович зарегистрировался как индивидуальный предприниматель и вместе со своим сыном занялся бизнесом.



Кравченко открыли придорожное кафе (павильон площадью 35 кв. м с названием «215 км») на трассе М 60 Хабаровск – Владивосток, на въезде в город Бикин.

Александр Иванович и его сын Константин торгуют продуктами питания, горячими напитками и выпечкой собственного производства (чебуреки, беляши и т.д.). Продукция пользуется спросом и реализуется в собственных павильонах.

О КБФ Константин Александрович узнал из районной газеты «Бикинский вестник» и, когда возникла необходимость, обратился за финансовой помощью.

Первый заем в сумме 100,000 рублей был оформлен в октябре 2006 года на открытие нового ларька на центральном рынке города, что позволило увеличить товарный запас и выручки.

Второй и третий займы (июль и август 2007 года, соответственно 40,000 и 70,000 рублей) были взяты на облагораживание территории вокруг павильона (расширение подъезда к павильону, обустройство удобной парковки). Сейчас у Александра Ивановича работают четыре человека, благодаря займам штат увеличился в два раза.

Долгое время отец и сын задумывались о расширении своего бизнеса - строительстве придорожного кафе. Искали подходящее место и в марте 2008 года Александр Иванович оформил заём в КБФ в сумме 400,000 рублей на строительство придорожного кафе по трассе М 60 231 км., за городом, при повороте на с. Покровка, недалеко от таможенного поста. При открытии этого кафе появятся еще восемь новых рабочих мест. В настоящее время уже закончено строительство фундамента и начинается возведение стен.

Семья Кравченко продолжает взаимовыгодное сотрудничество с фондом, имеет идеальную кредитную историю и планирует еще обращаться в КБФ за займами.

Кредитование бизнеса Кравченко стало возможным благодаря участию КБФ в долгосрочной программе поддержки малого предпринимательства Правительства Хабаровского края и сотрудничеству с Фондом поддержки малого предпринимательства.

На фото: Константин Кравченко возле собственного кафе, обустроенного при помощи займа КБФ в рамках программы сотрудничества с Правительством Хабаровского края